



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE)

MEMBERS' FUNDS

19 November 2009

KEY ISSUE

To make decisions on funding proposals.

SUMMARY

The report makes recommendations on a number of proposals.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Spelthorne) is asked:

1. To note that funding given by Mr Agarwal, Mr Beardsmore, Mr Walsh, Mrs Saliagopoulos and Mrs Turner-Stewart towards advertisements for Local Committee will be £259. (para 2.1).
2. To note funding given to Spelthorne Museum by Richard Walsh (para 2.2).
3. To note the updated position relating to funding bids from the Catholic Children's Society and East to West, which were put before the Local Committee on 12 October (para 2.3).
4. To note funding approved under delegated authority since the last Local Committee meeting (paras 2.4-2.8).
5. To consider an application for funding of £1120 from Burway Rowing Club, to be funded from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation

- (para 2.9).
6. To consider an application for funding of £2860 from the Rotary Club of Ashford for the provision and distribution of dictionaries to all Year 5 children within Spelthorne (Para 2.10).
 7. To consider an application for funding of £1250 from Spelthorne Borough Council for the purchase and installation of 10 brackets, flags and flagpoles at Stainash Parade and Victoria Parade, to be funded from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation (para 2.11).
 8. To consider an application for funding of £2150 from St Peter's Church Hall towards new hall curtains, to be funded from Mrs Saliagopoulos' capital allocation (para 3.1).

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The budget for 2009/10 made the following funds available - £8250 revenue allocation per Member and £5000 capital allocation per Member. These figures show the amounts still available taking account of any funding awarded under delegated authority and decisions relating to paragraph 2.3.

Member's Revenue Allocation

	Balance Remaining £
Mr Agarwal	5756
Mr Beardsmore	7256
Mrs Coleman	5815
Mrs Nichols	8015
Mrs Saliagopoulos	6256
Mrs Turner-Stewart	4119
Mr Walsh	5638

Total £42855

Member Capital Allocation

	Balance Remaining £
Mr Agarwal	5000
Mr Beardsmore	5000
Mrs Coleman	5000
Mrs Nichols	5000
Mrs Saliagopoulos	5000
Mrs Turner-Stewart	0
Mr Walsh	5000

Total £30000

2.0 MEMBER'S REVENUE ALLOCATION

2.1 Advertisements for Local Committee £1295

At the meeting on 12 October, it was agreed that Mr Agarwal, Mr Beardsmore, Mr Walsh, Mrs Saliagopoulos and Mrs Turner-Stewart would contribute £175 each for additional advertisements for the remaining two scheduled Local Committees. This was based on 7 members contributing. In the event the total amount will be funded by 5 members at a cost of £259 each.

2.2 Friends of Spelthorne Museum £3900 (Carol Coleman)

At the meeting on 12 October, it was agreed that Mrs Saliagopoulos, Mrs Coleman, Mr Agarwal and Mr Beardsmore would each contribute £500 to the Friends of Spelthorne Museum. The decision on any additional contributions from other Members was delegated to Mr Painter as the Area Director following the acquisition of additional information. This has now been obtained and Mr Walsh has agreed to contribute £500 to this project. Mrs Nichols may contribute at the end of the financial year subject to the resolution of other possible projects she is currently pursuing. This makes the total contributions to Friends of Spelthorne Museum as £2500.

2.3 East to West £5000 (Carol Coleman)

Catholic Children's Society £10000 (Carol Coleman)

At the last Local Committee meeting on 19 October, funding bids were put forward from the East to West Trust and the Catholic Children's Society, both for projects within local schools. Mr Agarwal and Mrs Coleman agreed to contribute one seventh of the East to West bid and Mrs Coleman and Mr Beardsmore agreed to contribute one seventh of the Catholic Children's Society bid. Following discussion at the meeting it was agreed that further information about the projects was necessary and the final decision on which Members will contribute what amounts was delegated to the Area Director. No contributions for these projects have yet been deducted from the relevant balances in the tables at 1.1 until all contributions have been finalised. It is hoped that an oral report providing this information will be able to be provided at the meeting.

Delegated authority

2.4 Laleham Methodist Church £637 (Denise Turner-Stewart)

A sum of £637 from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation was agreed towards the costs of redecoration of the community hall and foyer at Laleham Methodist Church.

2.5 Staines Shopmobility £500 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

A sum of £500 from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation was agreed towards the costs of additional signage for Shopmobility within Staines Town Centre.

2.6 Greeno Centre £350 (Richard Walsh)

A sum of £350 from Mr Walsh's allocation was agreed towards the costs of entertainers for Christmas festivities.

2.7 Friends of the Fordbridge Centre £700 (Carol Coleman)

A sum of £700 from Mrs Coleman's allocation was agreed towards the costs of a replacement minibus.

2.8 Burma Star Veterans Association £300 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

A sum of £300 from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation was agreed towards the costs of the Christmas lunch and party.

FUNDING BIDS

The following new requests for funding have been received since the last meeting of the Local Committee. The name of the Divisional Member or Member proposing the scheme is in brackets and, where the project would benefit Spelthorne residents Borough wide, these have been proposed by the Chairman.

2.9 Burway Rowing Club £1120 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

Burway Rowing Club has submitted an application for funding of £1120 towards overall costs of £3069 for 2 rowing machines for training (£1949) and 4 pairs of Carl Douglas Riggers (£1120) which are the clips to hold the oars onto the boat. This will allow the club to delegate boats to different clubs and will also allow them to increase membership. The club runs 6 week taster sessions for both adults and children to encourage new members and are considering advertising in schools this year to raise awareness of the club and recruit new members. The club, which operates on a voluntary basis, currently has 150 members of which are 100 are from Spelthorne. This will be funded from Mrs Saliagopoulos' allocation.

2.10 The Ashford Rotary Club £2860 (Richard Walsh)

Ashford Rotary Club has submitted a bid for funding of £2860 towards overall costs of £3793 for the provision and distribution of illustrated dictionaries to all year 5 children within Spelthorne. This project aims to support local schools' efforts at improving literacy and enhancing reading and comprehension skills in English. This will involve all 19 junior schools operating within Spelthorne. Members are asked if they wish to contribute and if so, how much and by whom.

2.11 Stainash Parade & Victoria Parade £1250 (Denise Turner-Stewart)

Mrs Turner-Stewart would like to fund the purchase and installation of 10 brackets (£100 each), 10 flags and 10 flagpoles (£25 each) at Stainash Parade and Victoria Parade. Discussions were held between Mrs Turner-Stewart and Spelthorne Borough Council which resulted in an order being placed for the brackets, flags and flagpoles and it should therefore be noted that this bid is retrospective as orders have been placed prior to approval being given by the Local Committee. Five brackets will be erected at Stainash Parade (with one location still to be determined) and five will be at Victoria Parade. The Local Highway Manager has been consulted about the locations and has no objections to the proposed locations from a highways perspective although the fifth location on Stainash Parade has still to be identified by the Chairman and approved by the Local Highway Manager. As the applicant for

funding, any funding agreed will have to be subject to Spelthorne Borough Council providing the County Council with

- i) written agreement from the property owners for the erection of brackets, flagpoles and flags on their property,
- ii) a copy of their public liability insurance from the property owners,
- iii) a copy of the structural adequacy design certificate (as required by the Local Highway Manager),
- iv) confirmation that SBC will undertake maintenance of the brackets.

If approved, this will be funded from Mrs Turner-Stewart's allocation.

3.00 Capital Allocation

3.1 St Peter's Church £2150 (Denise Saliagopoulos)

St Peter's Church has submitted an application for funding of £2150 towards overall costs of £4271 for the purchase and installation of new curtains and blinds for the large hall. The current curtains are 20 years old and are now worn and damaged. All materials need to be flame retardant. Replacement of the curtains and blinds would result in an improved appearance to the hall, better fire safety and more warmth. The hall is used by a large variety of community users including Daybreak respite care, voluntary groups such as Brownies and Guides, Spelthorne Young Voices and also mother and toddler groups as well as one-off users. This will be funded from Denise Saliagopoulos' capital allocation.

4. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

Paragraph 1.1 sets out what remains of the individual Members revenue allocation and their capital allocations. There are sufficient funds for all the projects to be funded.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

The contributions proposed will benefit a wide range of adults and children in Spelthorne, some of whom may have disabilities.

6. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

These proposals meet the criteria agreed by the Local Committee for financial support.

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APPENDIX A

CRITERIA FOR USE OF FUNDS

1. MEMBER'S ALLOCATIONS

- a) Support for any one project will not normally exceed £10,000.
- b) Any proposal to be considered by Committee must be proposed by at least one Member who is willing to provide at least some financial support to the project. However, Members whose funds are totally committed may still put proposals forward for support by the Committee.
- c) The funds will not be used to cover revenue costs – expenditure must be of a one-off nature or serve as “pump-priming”.
- d) Contributions will not normally be made to cover funding gaps arising from budget reduction decisions.
- e) Priority will be given to proposals attracting an element of match funding.
- f) Proposals will be considered from SCC services, other statutory bodies and voluntary organisations.

2. FUNDING PAID UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The decision to pay funding of not more than £1000 can be delegated to the Area Director, in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee. Funding paid under delegated authority is subject to the criteria laid down in paragraph 1 above, **and** the following additional criteria:

- a) the application must have been endorsed by the appropriate local Member
- b) the application should be for a maximum of £1000
- c) applications from private clubs or other membership organisations must clearly demonstrate the wider community benefit of the project
- d) projects must not contravene any of the Council's agreed policies or priorities
- e) the application should be for a future project, not a retrospective request.
- f) the application should not be to cover ongoing revenue costs.

3. COMMITTEE CAPITAL ALLOCATION

The balance of the £35,000 initially allocated to support capital projects through voluntary organisations will be used for any suitable project promoting well being in Spelthorne and agreed by the Committee. These funds are divided equally between Members but are agreed by Committee decision.

The following is a definition for “capital” in these circumstances:

Capital expenditure is defined as the acquisition, construction, enhancement or replacement of an asset. An asset can be land & buildings, vehicles, plant, furniture & equipment or infrastructure. In order for an asset to be capitalised it should yield benefits for a period of more than one year.

It is proposed that the following criteria should apply to this fund:

- a) Any proposal to be considered by Committee must be put forward by at least one Member.
- b) Priority will be given to proposals attracting an element of match funding.
- c) Proposals must be of a local nature and be for the benefit of the people of Spelthorne.

APPENDIX B

GUIDANCE NOTE

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE SPELTHORNE - MEMBERS' ALLOCATIONS

This guidance note is designed to assist in the consideration of applications for requests for funding from Members' Allocations, and should be used in conjunction with the formal criteria laid down for funding.

1. FUNDING CEILINGS

- i) There is a general presumption against requests for 100% funding of projects and the Local Committee would wish to see evidence of fund raising and/or other partner contributions. However the Local Committee reserves the right to fund 100% of projects, taking into account the overall resources of the organisation, the sum requested and any previous fundraising by the organisation.
- ii) Individual bids should generally be for no more than £10,000.

2. REPEAT REVENUE FUNDING

There is a general presumption against requests for repeat funding for the same project, as over time this would reduce the scope to fulfil the original aim of allocations which was to enable Members to respond to local issues. However, the Local Committee reserves the right to vary this rule where it is felt that the project is making an exceptional contribution to the community and more time may be required to secure alternative funding.

3. RETROSPECTIVE FUNDING

- i) As a general rule, it is not considered good practice to fund projects retrospectively and funding will not be considered for projects where the group has already committed, or decided to commit, funds.
- ii) Applications that are retrospective due to the timing of the Local Committee meetings may be considered provided that the proposed allocation has been brought to the attention of the Area Director before the event/purchase/expenditure takes place. However the group should be advised by the proposing Member that the Local Committee decision is not a 'rubber stamping' exercise and that any expenditure they commit in the hope of receiving funding is entirely at their own risk.
- iii) Applications for retrospective projects cannot be funded under the delegated authority powers.

4. PRIVATE CLUBS OR MEMBERSHIP ORGANISATIONS

Such organisations need to demonstrate clearly the wider community benefit that their project would bring.

5. FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUALS

Funding bids which would benefit an individual or an individual's property will not be considered.

6. HIGHWAYS PROJECTS

- i) Members' allocations should rarely be used to 'top up' the Highways budget agreed by the County Council, especially where the additional £100,000 capital allocation has been allocated by the Local Committee for Highways purposes. However, it is recognised that small street scene improvements, i.e. additional tree cutting or planting, can be a positive and welcome use of Members' Allocations.
- ii) Any such proposals should initially be shared with the West Area Group Manager/Local Transportation Manager for a view on appropriateness of the proposed expenditure bearing in mind any priority lists and the capacity for additional work to be carried out without damaging the implementation of the agreed work programme for the service.